

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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P R 131050Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5074
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, YO, US
SUBJECT: REACTION TO TITO VISIT

REF: (A) ZAGREB 200, (B) ZAGREB 206

1. HIGHLY FAVORABLE MEDIA AND PERSONAL REACTIONS CONTINUE HERE
IN AFTERMATH OF TITO VISIT TO WASHINGTON. WEEKEND PRESS AND
TELEVISION, AS WELL AS YUGOSLAVS WITH WHOM WE HAVE TALKED,
ALL GIVE VERY FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF VISIT AND U.S.-YUGOSLAV
RELATIONS.

2. OVER WEEKEND OF MARCH 11-12, ZAGREB DAILY "VJESNIK" CARRIED
VARIOUS PIECES ON TITO VISIT INCLUDING TEXT OF TITO'S AIRPORT
STATEMENT, EDITORIAL ON VISIT, AND ARTICLE BY U.S. CORRESPON-
DENT ON TITO'S MEETING WITH AMERICANS OF YUGOSLAV DESCENT.
MARCH 12 EDITORIAL ENTITLED "VISITS WHICH STRENGTHEN TRUST"
COMMENTS ON VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND LONDON. HAILING TITO-
CARTER MEETING AS INTERNATIONAL EVENT WHICH GOES BEYOND FRAME-
WORK OF U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, EDITORIAL PORTRAYS THE PRESI-
DENTS' DISCUSSION AS ADVANCING WORLD PEACE. ON BILATERAL
MATTERS, VJESNIK GIVES FIRST PLACE TO REAFFIRMATION OF U.S.
SUPPORT FOR YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY,
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AND UNITY, AND THEN NOTES THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUN-
TRIES HAVE BEEN STEADILY IMPROVING. THE WASHINGTON MEETING,
VJESNIK SAYS, WILL GIVE A NEW STIMULUS TO COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND ENCOURAGE ALL SMALLER COUNTRIES,
ESPECIALLY THE NON-ALIGNED, IN THEIR EFFORTS FOR EQUALITY IN
THEIR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH THE SUPERPOWERS.

3. IN MARCH 11 ARTICLE, VJESNIK'S U.S. CORRESPONDENT DRAZEN VUKOV-COLIC REPORTS ASSESSMENT OF VISIT WHICH TITO GAVE IN HIS MEETING WITH AMERICANS OF YUGOSLAV DESCENT. VUKOV-COLIC QUOTES TITO AS SAYING, "WE ARE VERY SATISFIED WITH THESE DISCUSSIONS. . . IN A SERIES OF QUESTIONS AMERICA IS QUOTE CLOSE TO US AND WE DESIRE TO IMPROVE OUR RELATIONS. . . NOW WE HAVE BUILT AN EVEN MORE SOLID BRIDGE." COMMENTING ON SECURITY ASPECTS OF VISIT, TITO IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "THE LAST TIME I CAME TO NEW YORK, THEY (DEMONSTRATORS) WERE SHOUTING BENEATH OUR WINDOWS, THIS TIME NO ONE DISTURBED US."

4. ALSO SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF PRESS COVERAGE WAS AN ARTICLE WHICH DID NOT RPT NOT APPEAR. IN KEEPING WITH THE UPBEAT TONE OF TITO VISIT, VJESNIK APPARENTLY DECIDED NOT TO PUBLISH THE EARLIER ANNOUNCED SECOND INSTALLMENT OF REPORT ON ANTI-YUGOSLAV PROPAGANDA BEING PUBLISHED IN THE U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES (REF B). KAISER

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Message Attributes

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